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Immigrants prepare for new Biden protections with excitement and concern

By G. SALOMON/R. SANTANA

MIAMI (AP) — Roberto Garcia crossed the border from Mexico in 2009 looking for a better life. For the past eight years, he has been married to an American woman, and they have three kids who are all American citizens. The only one in the family who is not is Garcia. Seven years ago, he applied to legalize his status through a process that, if approved, would still require him to return to Mexico with no guarantee that he would be allowed back into the United States. The possibility of being separated from his family or — in a worst case scenario — being unable to return home to Los Angeles has been stressful. So has the wait. It has been seven years and Garcia has not yet gotten an appointment at the U.S. Consulate in Ciudad Juarez, just across the border in Mexico.



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Maria Zambrano sits at her apartment, Monday, Aug. 12, 2024, in Bal Harbour, Fla.

Associated Press

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

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Choice of Main Dish

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Jasmine rice, Stir-fried Bokchoy, Fried Onions, Asian Glaze
- Maple Bourbon BBQ Cowbo y Pincho**
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Shrimp & Fillet Mignon, House rice, Green Beans, Bold Garlic Butter Sauce
- Grilled Garlic Shrimp**
Forbidden Black Rice, Sautéed Vegetables and an Apricot and Ginger Sauce
- Fish Duo**
Assortment of fish, Jasmine Rice, Sautéed Kale and Spinach, Creole Sauce and Mango Salsa
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Ex-Rep. George Santos expected to plead guilty to multiple counts in fraud case, AP source says

By **SUSAN HAIGH**
Associated Press

Former U.S. Rep. George Santos is expected to plead guilty to multiple counts in his federal fraud case, according to a person familiar with the matter.

Santos, a Republican from New York, is expected to enter the plea at a court hearing planned for Monday on Long Island, the person said. The person could not publicly discuss details of the plea and spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Messages were left seeking comment from Santos and three lawyers representing the former congressman.

The court hearing was scheduled for Monday afternoon after prosecutors and Santos'



Rep. George Santos, R-N.Y., leaves the Capitol after being expelled from the House of Representatives, Friday, Dec. 1, 2023, in Washington.

Associated Press

lawyers jointly requested one on Friday.

They also sought and received a delay in certain pre-trial deadlines.

The news comes just weeks

before jury selection was set to begin on Sept. 9. Santos has previously pleaded not guilty to a range of financial crimes, including lying to Congress about his wealth,

collecting unemployment benefits while actually working and using campaign contributions to pay for personal expenses such as designer clothing.

Among the charges Santos faces are wire fraud, theft of public funds, money laundering and aggravated identify theft.

Prosecutors recently told the judge that the trial could last three weeks because they expected to call at least three dozen witnesses, including some victims of Santos' alleged crimes.

Santos has previously maintained his innocence and called the investigation a "witch hunt," claims that prosecutors called "baseless" in a recent court filing. But in December, when prosecutors said plea negotiations were ongoing, Santos said in an interview at that time that a deal was "not off the table."

Asked if he was afraid of

going to prison, he said: "I think everybody should be afraid of going to jail, it's not a pretty place and uh, I definitely want to work very hard to avoid that as best as possible."

Earlier this week, Judge Joanna Seybert rejected Santos' request that potential jurors fill out a written questionnaire gauging their opinions of him. His lawyers argued in court filings it was necessary because "for all intents and purposes, Santos has already been found guilty in the court of public opinion."

Lawyers for the government had also been seeking to admit as evidence some of the lies Santos made during his campaign. Before he was elected in 2022 to represent parts of Queens and Long Island, he falsely claimed to have graduated from both New York University and Baruch College and that he had worked at top Wall Street firms. □



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Trump again decries two gold medalist Olympic athletes, falsely labeling the female boxers as men



Republican presidential nominee former President Donald Trump speaks at a campaign rally at the Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza, Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024, in Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Donald Trump on Saturday again decried two gold medalist Olympic athletes, falsely labeling the female boxers as men.

Trump made the comments while speaking at a campaign rally in Pennsylvania and pledging to "keep men out of women's sports," turned his attention to the recently concluded Olym-

pic Games and the case of two athletes who became the subject of international scrutiny regarding misconceptions about their gender. Trump has long criticized transgender people as part of his rallies and focused specifically on transgender athletes, using language about gender identity that LGBTQ+ advocates say is wrong and harmful.

In the case of the two boxers, both Imane Khelif of Algeria and Li Yu-ting of Taiwan have faced misconceptions about their gender created by the fallout from the Olympic-banished International Boxing Association's decision last year to disqualify both fighters from the world championships for allegedly failing an eligibility test.

Trump did not mention the athletes by name but remarked that "in the Olympics, they had two transitioned."

"They were men. They transitioned to women, and they were in the boxing," Trump said. □

Immigrants prepare for new Biden protections with excitement and concern

Continued from Front

Now, a Biden administration program launching Monday will allow some spouses of U.S. citizens without legal permission to stay in the U.S. to legalize their status without leaving the country. That is giving Garcia, and others like him, new hope. "Finally, there is a light that this is possible," the 37-year-old said. "I imagine I will soon have the important documents that so many people want to have." The new program offers a rare opportunity to erase the threat of deportation and one day earn citizenship. But tempering that excitement is concern: Who will benefit from what has been described as the most expansive U.S. protections for immigrants in over a decade? Will the program face legal challenges? And most important, will it survive the presidential election?

Under the policy Democratic President Joe Biden announced in June, many spouses without legal status will be able to apply for something called "parole in place," offering permission to stay in the U.S., apply for a green card and eventually get on a path to citizenship.

To be eligible, they must have been continuously in the U.S. for at least 10 years, not pose a security threat or have a disqualifying criminal history, and have been married to a citizen by June 17 — the day before the program was announced. They must pay a \$580 fee to apply and fill out a lengthy application, including an explanation of why they deserve humanitarian parole and a long list of supporting documents proving how long they have been in the country.

They apply to the Department of Homeland Security, and if approved, have three years to seek permanent residency. During that period, they can get work authorization.

The administration estimates about 500,000 people could be eligible, plus about 50,000 of their chil-



Roberto Garcia and his wife Maria Garcia pause for a picture after dropping their two children off for their first day of school in East Los Angeles on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024.

Associated Press

dren.

Before this program, it was complicated for people who were in the U.S. illegally to get a green card after marrying an American citizen. They can be required to return to their home country — often for years — and they always face the risk they may not be allowed back in.

News of Biden's program set off a flurry of activity nationwide as couples checked whether they were eligible. Immigrant groups have reached out to help people understand the program and battle misinformation. Some launched radio ads. "There's definitely a lot of interest but also a lot of concerns," said Carolina Castaneda, a staff attorney with the Immigrant Legal Resource Center in California's Central Valley.

Activists and lawyers say they and applicants are weighing whether it is a risk to apply, if the program will survive possible Republican lawsuits and what happens if Republican Donald Trump — who has vowed to deport millions of im-

migrants — is back in the White House.

There has been far more hesitancy compared with the excitement that greeted the launch of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, or DACA, which protected people brought to the country as children from deportation, said Karla Aguayo, director of legal services at CHIRLA, the Los Angeles-based Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights.

When DACA was announced in 2012, she said thousands of people lined up outside the organization's office. For the new program, it has just been a few couples.

While DACA had a much bigger applicant pool, the immigrant community has seen how these policies get caught up in the courts, Aguayo said.

"People are like, 'This is nice, but how long will it last?'" she said.

The organization has posted information about the new program online and held information sessions and one-on-one appoint-

ments with clients. Those likely to qualify can come back Monday to apply.

The eligible couples are excited, she said, "coming with an accordion file of documents that they want reviewed." But, she said, her group is discovering that a majority of people it sees will not qualify. One of the biggest reasons: Many returned to their home country at some point — often for big life events like a dying family member — and reentry makes them ineligible.

For María Zambrano, the possibility that Trump wins the presidential election and ends the policy adds to the urgency.

"We have to react as soon as possible and apply as soon as possible," said the 56-year-old resident of Bal Harbour, Florida.

She came to the U.S. from Colombia in 2001 and has not gone back. She works as a Spanish language tutor and has her own company. Seven years ago, she married a U.S. citizen, and like Garcia, applied for legal status but still has to in-

terview at a U.S. Consulate in Colombia.

She has been waiting for that appointment for more than two years. Now, she has a chance to avoid the risky trip out of the U.S.

Immigrants who, unlike Garcia and Zambrano, are not already on the government's radar may fear the risk of applying, especially if Trump is president. His administration would know who and where they are, said Charles Kuck, an Atlanta-based immigration attorney.

"Is there a risk associated with this? One hundred percent," Kuck said.

This type of program should have been rolled out a few years ago, not months before an election, Kuck said. He is advising clients to wait to see who wins.

Garcia and Zambrano already are thinking about how this opportunity can change their lives.

Garcia and his 44-year-old wife, María, have an appointment with their immigration attorney the day after the government begins accepting applications on Monday.

María, who had an accident a year ago and cannot work, said: "My biggest fear is that he won't be able to come back," if Garcia travels to Ciudad Juarez.

As the family's sole breadwinner and the one who does things like take the kids to school, Garcia said he cannot take that risk even if he were to finally get an appointment.

As for Zambrano, she will be able to travel home to visit her parents and brothers. She can get a driver's license, health insurance, a house and maybe even vote one day.

Garcia, who said he has paid taxes since 2010 and is studying for his contractor's license, also dreams of what he can do with a green card. On the top of his mind: going to Mexico to see his parents and seven brothers for the first time in 15 years.

"It's been many years of not seeing them, not talking to them face to face," Garcia said. "I try not to think about it." □

Ernesto strengthens back into a hurricane, sends powerful swells, rip currents to U.S. East Coast

By **RON TODT**

Associated Press

Tropical Storm Ernesto became a hurricane again Sunday as it churned away from Bermuda and headed further out in the northeastern Atlantic, sending powerful swells toward the U.S. East Coast, generating rip currents associated with at least one death and prompting many rescues.

The National Hurricane Center in Miami said Ernesto's maximum sustained winds were clocked at 75 mph (120 kph), just barely Category 1 strength.

More strengthening was forecast over the next 12 hours, with Ernesto then expected to weaken and become a post-tropical cyclone on Tuesday, the hurricane center said. The storm was centered about 520 miles (840 kilometers) south of Halifax, Nova Scotia, and was expected to pass near southeastern Newfoundland late Monday and early Tuesday. Swells generated by Ernesto were affecting portions of the Bahamas, Bermuda, the U.S. East Coast as well as the Canadian Atlantic coast. Life-threatening surf and rip current conditions are likely in these areas during the next couple of days, the hurricane center said. The National Weather Service earlier posted a coastal flood advisory and warned of a high risk for rip currents



This photo provided by the National Park Service on Friday, Aug. 16, 2024, in Rodanthe, N.C., along the Cape Hatteras National Seashore shows debris from an unoccupied beach house that collapsed into the Atlantic Ocean from winds and waves caused by Hurricane Ernesto.

Associated Press

along the Atlantic Coast through Monday evening, saying they "can sweep even the best swimmers away from shore into deeper water." A warning extended from Florida to the Boston area and portions of Maine. In periods of high risk, rip currents become more likely and potentially more frequent, posing a danger to all levels of swimmers, not just inexperienced ones, said meteorologist Mike Lee in Mount Holly, New Jersey. "It's going to be really dangerous out in the water today," he said.

At Manasquan Inlet in New Jersey, officials said a fisherman was washed off the north jetty Saturday but was quickly rescued by lifeguards. The victim had knee and back injuries and a possible concussion and was taken to a hospital. Lifeguard Chief Doug Anderson told NJ Advance Media, and lifeguards rescued at least five other people. In Ventnor to the south, Senior Lt. Meghan Holland of the city beach patrol said eight people were rescued. Forecasters, citing local emergency management,

said a 41-year-old man drowned Saturday in a rip current at Surf City, North Carolina. Two men drowned Friday in separate incidents on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, but it was unclear whether rip currents were involved. The Island Packet of Hilton Head reported, citing a lifeguard services spokesperson. The rough surf contributed to an unoccupied beach house along the Cape Hatteras National Seashore on North Carolina's Outer Banks collapsing into the water Friday evening. Seashore offi-

cials urged the public Sunday to avoid beaches in parts of the village of Rodanthe where "substantial damage" to several oceanfront structures has occurred. Debris cleanup was expected over the next several days. Flash flood warnings were posted for parts of Connecticut and southeastern New York, and flash flood watches and advisories were in effect for areas of Delaware, New Jersey and southeastern Pennsylvania, with forecasters warning of floods in low-lying areas. Flooding in parts of western Connecticut closed roads, forced water rescues and caused a minor mudslide Sunday.

The Southbury Police Department asked residents in a Facebook post to stay home while roads were closed and crews responded to emergencies. In nearby Danbury, city officials said in a statement that a mudslide prompted the evacuation of a home. On New York's Long Island, East Hampton Village Mayor Jerry Larsen said beaches were closed to swimmers on Saturday and Sunday because high tides pushed water right up to the base of the dunes "so you can't really have people sitting on the beach." Many people watched the water from the parking lot Sunday, he added. □



This image provided by the Paulding County Sheriff's Office shows Deputy Brandon Cunningham.

Associated Press

Georgia deputy killed in shooting during domestic dispute call by suspect who took his own life

HIRAM, Ga. (AP) — A Georgia sheriff's deputy was shot and killed while responding to a reported domestic dispute in what police said was an ambush on officers by a suspect who took his own life. Two deputies responded to a call shortly after 6 p.m. Saturday and immediately were fired upon from a home in a subdivision in Hiram, Georgia, Major Ashley Henson of the Paulding County Sheriff's Office said during a briefing. The male suspect also fired

"a hail of bullets" at other officers but only one was shot, Henson said. Deputy Brandon Cunningham, 30, died at a hospital from a gunshot wound, Paulding County Sheriff Gary Gullledge confirmed during the briefing. "Tonight, we've lost a hero," Gullledge said, adding that "it's going to be a tough time for all of us and all of our guys." The suspect, who was not immediately identified, died of what appeared to be a self-inflicted gunshot

wound, Henson said. A woman who was involved in the domestic dispute had left but returned while police were at the scene. She also had been shot and was transported to an Atlanta-area hospital and listed in stable condition, Henson said. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation will oversee the investigation, Henson said, adding that it was not immediately clear if any of the officers returned fire in the community about 27

miles (43 kilometers) northwest of Atlanta. "Unfortunately, it appears as if our deputies were ambushed," Henson said. He called the shooting a "tremendously tragic situation," noting the sheriff's office had never lost an officer in the line of duty before Saturday. "Our hearts are broken," Henson said. "You see us holding it together but there are going to be, there is already heartache, there is already tears." □

Blinken, on ninth Mideast trip since Gaza war began, seeks ceasefire momentum as talks to resume

By **MATTHEW LEE**
Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will use his ninth diplomatic mission to the Middle East since the start of the Israel-Hamas war to press for the quick conclusion of an elusive ceasefire agreement. Blinken arrived in Israel on Sunday before what mediators have billed as a last push to reach a deal that will take place in Cairo later this week. He will meet with top Israeli officials on Monday before traveling to Egypt on Tuesday. Late last week, the three countries mediating the proposed ceasefire reported progress on a deal under which Israel would halt most military operations in Gaza and release a number of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for the release of hostages held by Hamas. A senior official traveling with Blinken said his arrival

in the region comes at a "critical time" in the ceasefire talks and the secretary would press all parties on the importance of concluding it quickly to end civilian suffering in Gaza and prevent the conflict from engulfing the region. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to preview Blinken's travels. Shortly before Blinken arrived in Tel Aviv, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told a Cabinet meeting there are areas where Israel can be flexible and unspecified areas where it won't be. "We are conducting negotiations and not a scenario in which we just give and give," he said. In addition to Netanyahu, Blinken will meet Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant and President Isaac Herzog on Monday. On Friday, the U.S. and fellow mediators Egypt and Qatar said they were closing in on a deal after two



Secretary of State Antony Blinken waves as he boards his plane to depart Yokota Air Base in Fussa, on the outskirts of Tokyo, July 29, 2024.

days of talks in Doha, with American and Israeli officials expressing cautious optimism. But Hamas has signaled resistance to what it called new demands by Israel. The evolving proposal calls for a three-phase process in which Hamas would release all hostages abducted during its Oct. 7 attack, which triggered the deadliest war fought between Israelis and

Associated Press Palestinians. In exchange, Israel would withdraw its forces from Gaza and release Palestinian prisoners. Officials said the U.S. has presented proposals to bridge all the gaps remaining between the Israeli and Hamas positions. Formal responses to the U.S. outline are expected this week and could lead to a ceasefire declaration unless the talks collapse, as has happened

with multiple previous efforts to end the 10-month-old war. U.S. President Joe Biden has seemed optimistic that a deal could be at hand, saying Friday "we are closer than we've ever been." The renewed push to conclude a ceasefire comes as the Palestinian death toll in Gaza has climbed past 40,000 since the war began, according to the Palestinian health ministry, which does not distinguish between civilian and militant deaths. Israel went in to Gaza after the Hamas surprise attacks inside Israel on Oct. 7, killing about 1,200 people, mostly civilians. Since then, fears for a rapid and dangerous escalation to other parts of the region have ebbed and flowed. Those fears are once again elevated as Iran and its proxies threaten retaliation for the killings in Lebanon of senior Hezbollah commanders and in Iran of the head of Hamas' political wing. □

Visit by Vietnam's new leader to China reflects key relationship, even as it builds ties with U.S.

By **KEN MORITSUGU**
Associated Press

BEIJING (AP) — Vietnam's new leader To Lam is making China the destination for his first overseas visit, signaling the continuing importance the Southeast Asian country places on its giant neighbor even as it strengthens ties with the United States and others. Lam stepped off a Vietnam Airlines plane on an overcast Sunday morning in Guangzhou, a major manufacturing and export hub near Hong Kong, China's state media reported. He later flew to Beijing, where he will meet Chinese leader Xi Jinping. His three-day visit comes about two weeks after Lam was confirmed as general secretary of Vietnam's Communist Party, the country's top political position. He succeeded Nguyen Phu Trong, who died last month after 13 years as leader.



In this photo released by Xinhua News Agency, Vietnamese President To Lam, center left, waves as he arrives in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, as he starts his three-day official visit to China, Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024.

Lam also has held the largely ceremonial title of the nation's president since May. The new leader is expected to continue his predecessor's strategy of balancing ties with China, the United States, Russia and others, Yu Xiangdong, the director of the Institute for Vietnam Studies at China's Zheng-

zhou University, wrote Saturday in the state-run Global Times newspaper. "The fact that Lam chose China as his first overseas visit destination since taking office is a sign that Vietnam attaches great importance to its relations with China," Yu said in an opinion piece. "But at the same time, judging from experience,

the country is not by any means going to give the U.S. the cold shoulder." Vietnam upgraded its ties with the United States and Japan last year to a comprehensive strategic partnership, the country's highest designation for a diplomatic relationship. Relations with China and India also have been given the

same designation. The United States and its ally Japan have been developing closer ties with Vietnam's communist government — America's former foe in the Vietnam War — as they seek partners in a growing economic and strategic rivalry with China. When Xi visited Vietnam in December, the two countries announced they would build "a shared future that carries strategic significance." The agreement, which Chinese state media has described as an elevation of ties, was seen as a concession by Vietnam, which had resisted using that wording in the past. Russian President Vladimir Putin met Lam in Vietnam in June after visiting North Korea on a rare overseas trip for the Russian leader, who has been ostracized by many countries because of the 2022 invasion and still-ongoing war in Ukraine. □

Cholera outbreak in Sudan has killed at least 22 people, health minister says

By **SAMY MAGDY**
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Sudan has been stricken by a cholera outbreak that has killed nearly two dozen people and sickened hundreds more in recent weeks, health authorities said Sunday. The African nation has been roiled by a 16-month conflict and devastating floods.

Health Minister Haitham Mohamed Ibrahim said in a statement that at least 22 people have died from the disease, and that at least 354 confirmed cases of cholera have been detected across the county in recent weeks.

Ibrahim didn't give a time frame for the deaths or the tally since the start of the year. The World Health Organization, however, said that 78 deaths were recorded from cholera this year in Sudan as of July 28. The disease also sickened more than 2,400 others between Jan. 1 and July 28, it said.



A woman sorts through floodwaters near her damaged home near the city of Abu Hamdan in Northern Sudan on Aug. 7, 2024.

Cholera is a fast-developing, highly contagious infection that causes diarrhea, leading to severe dehydration and possible death within hours when not treated, according to WHO. It is transmitted through the ingestion of contaminated food or water.

The cholera outbreak is the latest calamity for Sudan, which was plunged into chaos in April last year

when simmering tensions between the military and a powerful paramilitary group exploded into open warfare across the country. The conflict has turned the capital, Khartoum and other urban areas into battlefields, wrecking civilian infrastructure and an already battered health care system. Without the basics, many hospitals and medical facilities have closed

their doors.

It has killed thousands of people and pushed many into starvation, with famine already confirmed in a sprawling camp for displaced people in the wrecked northern region of Darfur.

Sudan's conflict has created the world's largest displacement crisis. More than 10.7 million people have been forced to flee

Associated Press

their homes since fighting began, according to the International Organization for Migration. Over 2 million of those fled to neighboring countries.

The fighting has been marked by atrocities including mass rape and ethnically motivated killings that amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity, according to the U.N. and international rights groups. Devastating seasonal floods in recent weeks have compounded the misery. Dozens of people have been killed and critical infrastructure has been washed away in 12 of Sudan's 18 provinces, according to local authorities. About 118,000 people have been displaced due to the floods, according to the U.N. migration agency.

Cholera is not uncommon in Sudan. A previous major outbreak left at least 700 dead and sickened about 22,000 in less than two months in 2017. □

The trash in Mali's capital is piling up. Donkey carts are coming to help

By **BABA AHMED**
Associated Press

BAMAKO, Mali (AP) — When handling the garbage of a city of over 3 million people and equipped with little more than a face mask and gloves, it helps to have a sense of humor. Yacouba Diallo decided to name the two donkeys that pull his cart after his cousins, Keita and Kanté.

Hauling garbage in Mali's capital, Bamako, can be otherwise grim. The city more than doubled its population in recent years and struggles to manage its waste. Piles of garbage dominate some streets.

Residents are turning to donkey carts like Diallo's for trash pickup. The carts can weave in and out of vehicle traffic and reach more places than trucks can, especially on bad roads. In addition, "it requires less investment than a truck," Diallo said.



Donkeys pull a cart to collect household waste at the Badalabougou garbage dump site in Bamako, Mali, on July 10, 2024.

He said he can make up to \$166 a month. That kind of money is attractive to youth who come from Mali's rural areas seeking employment in the West African nation with high unemployment. Some in Mali are concerned about the donkeys they use. Advocacy groups allege that some of the animals are over-

burdened, work long days and have little protection from walking on broken glass around dump sites. Amadou Doumbia with the SPANA nonprofit campaigns for the donkeys to be replaced with trucks. But conditions are tough all around. Ideally, the garbage collected from Bamako's streets is meant to

Associated Press

be deposited in a transfer site and then taken to a landfill. But the city doesn't have sites that meet required standards, said Bamadou Sidibé, a waste management consultant.

"All the institutions that have to deal with the waste problem are not playing their part," he said.

The World Bank in 2022 approved \$250 million to help rehabilitate a landfill outside Bamako to international standards and build a second one in the city. The project has been set up by the government and the World Bank and is due to last until 2028, but no date has been given for the start of construction.

Local authorities acknowledge the city has a waste disposal problem. But they blame residents.

"Bamako is dirty because people don't care about the environment or their health," asserted Adama

Kanté, a deputy mayor. He said residents aren't willing to pay for waste disposal. Some residents agree and point out that there's no penalty for simply tossing their garbage into the street.

"Instead of hiring a garbage collector who has to be paid, a lot of people wait until the rainy season to throw their garbage into the running water. It costs less," said one resident, Boureima Traoré.

Until solutions are put in place, the garbage mounds in Bamako have attracted some residents who risk their health and safety searching through them for items to reuse or sell.

It's a common scene in some African capitals and one that can turn deadly: Earlier this month, a vast landfill in Uganda's capital collapsed, killing at least 30 people. □



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Today is going to be a good day

(Oranjestad)—Here's why: Aruba Today collected some things to do **BEYOND** the beach. Yes, we know. Aruba, located 15 miles north of Venezuela in the warm waters of the southern Caribbean, is home to beautiful white-sand beaches, 82-degree days, and thus ideal for the perfect beach day. But we are also blessed with some of the warmest people in the world and our island is 19.6 miles long and 6 miles across, with a total area of 70 square miles. Bit more to discover than the white stretch on the coastline we say. Let's mention some of these hidden gems.

Nature Calls



The Arikok National park is worth the ride. We love the hikes that are guided by the park's rangers whose job is to maintain trails and protect natural resources. The flora and fauna are beautiful and the historical sites tell you about the island's indigenous roots. The guided tours are even free of charge. If you are not up to walking, you can drive through the park, one way or another this park is a great place to spend an entire day. Cruising through the landscape you end up at some of the most stunning beaches like Dos Playa or Daimara Beach. In Total the park consists of 7907 acres protected nature with a richness of animals living in it. The Aruban whiptail lizard (cododo), Aruban cat eye snake (santanero) and endangered rattle snake (cascabel) are just some of them, you can also admire these close in the park's Visitors' Center. For more information, visit the website www.arubanationalpark.org

Philip's Animal Garden

To stay with the animals, let's hop to an amazing place. Something different to do, an experience that is to be enjoyed by people of all ages. Welcome to Philip's Animal Garden. We are not talking about a zoo here, this is actually a sanctuary for all types of creatures, from horses to peacocks, kangaroos to turtles, monkeys, goats, and many, many more different species. The place was founded in 2009 and it is the only organization rescuing and rehabilitating exotic animals in Aruba, which has resulted in an amazing collection of these animals. They provide a suitable living environment for all



the rescued animals. Up until now the owner, Philip, has built this shelter with his own efforts; building all the cages from scratch, designing all structures and welding them with his own bare hands. His goal is to upgrade the facilities to a world-class animal shelter with veterinary care and round-the-clock staffs. With the input from the Aruban community and visitors they provide the best care for these animals. Please check out their website for more information: www.philipsanimalgarden.com.

The Lighthouse

No, you would not think of this as a hidden gem. The California Lighthouse is actually one of the most known highlights in Aruba and many repeated guests most probably took the ride uphill already. But, there is a significant change to this tower. Since September 2016 you can climb the top. In 2015 Stichting Monumentenfonds started the restoration of the California Lighthouse. The project finished in September 2016 and the Lighthouse is now open for visitors to enjoy the beautiful view from the top. The construction of the California Lighthouse started in 1915. The name 'California' came from a vessel of the West India Company and Pacific Steamship Co. called 'California' that shipwrecked in the area in 1891. Therefore they came up with the idea of building a lighthouse that could indicate the island's eastern tip to ships with its light. www.arubalighthouse.com will give you more information.

Kayak in the Mangroves



Mangel Halto at Savaneta is definitely a place not to miss out on. The beautiful beach with the natural mangroves is simply a beauty, but if you are into a more active way to enjoy the nature: take a kayak. While you are doing some workout -as it might get a little windy and rough-, you will see the island from a different perspective. You can even make a stop to do some snorkeling at the reef. Its fun, it's healthy and for sure something else. There are several companies that offer kayak tours, we had good experience with The Shack Kayak Tours Aruba, find them on Facebook.

Take an "off-road" sightseeing tour

A must-do activity on the island is for sure taking an off-road sightseeing tour. If you have a rented car, you can drive through the north-eastern side of Aruba and explore the natural pools, caves, rock formations and gorgeous view of the Atlantic Ocean. To access most of these sights, like the natural pool (Conchi) and the Guadirikiri and Fontein caves, you must enter through the Arikok National Park and buy a day pass. Then you drive up the rugged road that leads you through the white dunes, caves and along the wind turbines. Other locations, like the Ayo and Casibari Rock formation are situated more in the center of the island, and are free for guests, 24 hours a day.

Go for a shopping spree in the city center

Need a new bathing suit? Head to the city center of Oranjestad, where there is countless of different stores—both high end and more affordable—that can offer you the service you deserve! Local shopping stores often offer a more affordable price, and have a variety of clothes, shoes, bathing suites, purses and more. Along the Royal Plaza strip, there are numerous jewelry stores with great quality jewelry. In the Renaissance mall, you can shop high-end luxury brands, like Dolce & Gabbana, Kate Spade, Louis Vuitton and more.

Around the high-rise hotel area near Palm Beach, the Paseo Herencia Mall contain a variety of shopping stores, restaurants, small food stands and even a movie theater! □



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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Playa Linda Beach Resort!



The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
 Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
 Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Distinguished Visitors
 Mr. John & Cheryl Klipfell from Broadview Heights Ohio, United

States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Playa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's friendly and welcoming people.
- Aruba's beaches and spectacular sunsets.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's huge variety of outstanding restaurants.
- Aruba is very safe.

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Aruba's most family-friendly beaches

(Oranjestad)—One of the biggest concerns that parents have when travelling with their children is a guarantee of their safety and healthy enjoyment. Therefore, we thought it would be a great help to travelling parents to list off some the most family-friendly beaches around the island.

Baby Beach in San Nicolas
 Baby Beach is one Aruba's most popular and visited beaches, and for good reason: This sandy and quiet lagoon is a great place for parents to sit back and relax while their children play in the shallow shores of the beach. Beside the relaxing atmosphere, there are also

several services that may accommodate your stay, like a parking lot, sun tent rentals, chairs, bathrooms and a snack bar right at the far left of the beach.

Mangel Halto in Pos Chiquito

Mangel Halto is situated in the back streets of the Pos Chiquito city. Though there are several stairs on the sides of the beach cliff leading you down, the best spot for families to hang out is across the bridge, passed the mangrove trees near the entrance sign. Here, there are small and big palapas, perfect for big and small families to set up their belongings. In this area, the

shore is also shallow, falling right around your knee before slowly getting deeper: perfect for kids to safely play.

Eagle Beach/Palm Beach in the hotel area

Yet another highly popular beach site, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach is where most of our visitors go to tan, swim or play in the white sand. Because they are near the low-rise and high-rise hotel areas, these beaches are the most accessible for visitors on foot. These beaches also offer many palapas free to use, but you can also rent chairs and tents. Much like Baby Beach, these sites are one of the best beaches for



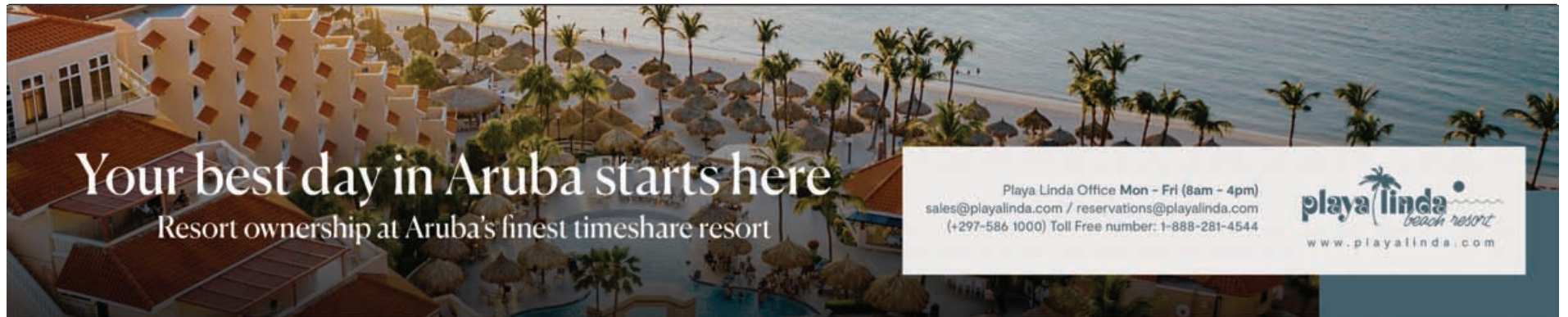
your children to play and build sand castles.

Boca Catalina in Malmok
 Boca Catalina is a small bay beach near the Malmok beach area further down the hotel areas. Though it may not be a very sandy beach, it is relatively quiet and tranquil. This is a great place for family to lay down a big blanket and have a little picnic. This is also one of the best places to snorkel,

as this area is filled with little fish and corals, even close to the shore.

Palm Island

Ok, this one is technically not a beach, but a must-visit attraction for family fun. This small water park oasis is located further down the Mangel Halto Beach and is reachable by boat. This water park offers 6 hours of fun activities, food, drinks, and a chance to see pink flamingoes up close! □



Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Playa Linda Beach Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Goodwill Ambassadors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

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Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Goodwill Ambassadors
Mr. Michael & Mrs. Nancy Leone from Whippany New Jersey, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Playa Linda Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people.
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "The feeling of safety & security on the island"



On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island".

Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our Picuda!



(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the "Picuda", a very common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Picuda.

Let's talk about the names of fish. Do you know your fish? This is an informative article that illustrate some fish and their names in Papiamentu, which the De-

partment of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, known as "Santa Rosa", wants to share and also obtain information from the public.

Picuda, Sphyraena barracuda, Greater Barracuda Well known is the Picuda on the island—Barracuda in English. Its scientific name is Sphyraena barracuda. It is a widely caught fish. It is found throughout the year in our waters, where it is a so-called "ambush predator" that stays still or floats

in the water waiting for its prey to approach so it can attack it with lightning speed. It is well known for fishermen, especially for its white flesh in fish soup. In fishing culture, there are many other names, such as Pecho blanco, Blekito, Banana, or Bleki. The names vary according to size.

Description

The Picuda is a long fish, with a round body like a torpedo and silver in color with shiny black stripes. Below, that is, the belly, is whiter,

while the top part is darker. Its snout is very pointed, and the lower jaw is longer than the upper one. Its peduncle, where the body meets the tail, is thick, while the tail also forms a crescent but in this case one more "full" than that of mullet or conefish. This reflects the hunting style of the Picuda. It needs to be able to accelerate quickly when the prey gets close.

throughout the year. Picuda, in our waters, is edible without any problem. Picuda is also a highly sought-after fish by sports fishermen or recreational fishermen because it puts up a good fight once hooked. It can be caught via trolling from a boat, casting from shore with a line or rod, or by jigging, casting the lure (artificial bait) and moving it with certain rod motions.

In Aruba:

Picuda can be found in our waters around our island

Picture courtesy of the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries.

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National Park Arikok: Aruba's biggest nature conservation



The National Park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There are numerous animals to discover, for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In

the national park, a Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches—a very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

Nature Conservation
The protected area of National Park Arikok was officially established in 2000. Arikok National Park is a 34 square kilometers (7907 acres) of natural area, located at the north-eastern part of Aruba which contains examples of most of the island's flora and fau-

na against a backdrop of great geological complexity. We are proud to state that approximately 18% of the total land area of Aruba is assigned as a National Park, to protect and preserve the flora, fauna, geology and historical remains present within Arikok National Park.

The Landscape

There is a great geological variety within the park. The main aspects are the rough hills of the volcanic Aruba lava formation, the mysterious rocks of the batholithic quartz-diorite/tonalite, and the limestone rocks from fossilized coral. The two tallest hills on the island are situated within the park. Jamanota hill 188 meters (617 ft) and Arikok hill 176 meters (577 ft), from which the name of the park is derived.

The line of the permanently wind-and-wave beaten North Coast is broken by several bays (boca's). Most of them are small yet impressive inlets at the mouth of dry riverbeds. Some of these bays (boca's) are spectacular sights, adorned with white, sandy beaches and sand dunes, as is the case at Boca Prins and Dos Playa.

Arikok is also home to Conchi, Aruba's most important natural attraction; also known as The Natural Pool. The journey to the Pool is and adventure by itself and only possible by foot, horse, ATV or 4x4 vehicle.

Cultural and Historical components

There are a number of sites within the park that attest to the history of Aruba. The Caquetío Indians left rock paintings in Cunucu Arikok and Fontein Cave. The bird drawing in the park logo is a copy of one of these historical artistic expressions.

Old plantation (Cunucus) sites tell the story of an active yet challenging agricultural past.

These Cunucus were also residential areas for the few families that worked the land. These families found ways to survive in the difficult conditions, and were able to erect their homes with materials found in the area. Two of these adobe houses have been restored. Park rangers are learning many of the old building techniques in order to preserve this unique Aruban mud-house. At Cunucu Arikok and near Plantation Prins you can find these adobe houses.

Park Management

For the management of the park, a dedicated foundation "Fundacion Parke Nacional Arikok" (FPNA), known today as the Aruba National Park Foundation was established in July 2003. In February 2017, mangrove and wetland RAMSAR site #198 Spanish Lagoon was annexed to Arikok National Park due to its importance as a feeding and breeding area for water birds and as a nursery area for a variety of marine organisms. With this addition, the areas under FPNA management increased by 70 hectares while the amount of species of flora and fauna to be conserved to over 250. On December 21st, 2018 (AB 2018 no. 77) Parke Marino Aruba – currently consisting of four marine protected areas (MPAs) – was officially established and subsequently brought under management of FPNA. In 2019 management plans will be established for the new MPAs which include: coral reefs, sea grass beds, mangrove systems, a large diversity of breeding seabirds. Parke Marino Aruba also contains potential shark nursery areas, endangered sea turtle nesting beaches and marine mammal nursery areas. □





For a small island, Aruba sure has a lot of unique treasures. Among these, we have some subspecies of animals that are unique to our island. These have evolved to perfectly adapt to our desert climate and make Aruba their home. At the same time, they are part of what makes Aruba truly one of a kind.

Cascabel (rattlesnake, *Crotalus durissus unicolor*)

According to the Arikok National Park, Aruba knows two kinds of snakes, the Santanero and the Cascabel. The cascabel belongs to the rattlesnake family. The cascabel is the only venomous snake from Aruba. It has a length of 65cm to 100cm, and is about 4 to 5cm wide. Its color varies from light brown to grey-brown, and its underbelly is white. On its back there are marks that are a little darker, in the shape of diamonds.

Its reproduction is oviparous, meaning the offspring can hatch from their eggs just before, during or immediately after laying.

The cascabel lives mainly in the Arikok National Park. It likes to live in dark places, and is thus found hidden among the limestone rocks and under stones. As a defense mechanism, the cascabel uses its rattle as a warning, and it is not an aggressive animal.

The cascabel feeds on lizards, small mammals such as rats and mice. It paralyzes or kills its prey with its venom, which is injected through a bite. The enemies of the casca-

bel are donkeys, goats, humans and cars. Humans are the biggest enemy of the cascabel, as they kill them and destroy their habitat for urbanization.

Shoco (burrowing owl, *Athene cucularia arubensis*)

The shoco is a small bird which is seldom seen. They are active during the day but are more active later in the day and at night for hunting. These owls have very good night vision and very good hearing. The shoco is the national symbol of Aruba.

The shoco has about 20cm of length, and the females are slightly heavier than the males. They are light brown in color, with many white spots. The belly of the Shoco is either white or light brown, and the shoco has striking yellow eyes. Its beak is yellow/green. Young owls do not have white spots and are lighter in color. The nest of the shoco is a burrow in the ground. If the shoco cannot find a burrow, it will dig one in soft soil. The shoco lays one or two eggs every other day until all the eggs are laid – a shoco can lay up to four eggs. The first owlets hatch after three to four weeks. The shoco owl takes care of the owlets for three months until they leave the nest. Only a few owlets survive.

The owls dig burrows in the ground with low grass vegetation. An owl can live up to nine years.

Its defense mechanism is simply to fly away or retreat to its burrows. They eat mostly insects, mice and

Unique fauna of Aruba

lizards, and the main threats to their survival are boas – an invasive species introduced by humans as pets – and humans through destruction of their habitat.

Prikichi (parakeet, *Aratinga pertinax*)

The Prikichi is the national bird of Aruba. On Aruba, Bonaire, and Curaçao, parakeets can be found, but each of the three islands has a different breed. The Yellow-shouldered Amazon parakeet that we have on Aruba is also found along the coast of Venezuela. Unfortunately, there is interbreeding between the breeds due to cage birds from, for example, Curaçao being released on Aruba. The parakeet population on Aruba is in danger due to extensive deforestation occurring on the island because of the growing population.

The prikichi weighs between 90 to 100 grams. It has a greenish-brown head with some yellow around the eye. The back and wings of the parakeet are dark green, and the underside of the body is a lighter shade of green. There is also a bit of blue in the wings. The parakeet's beak is gray/black.

Parakeets often use termite nests as breeding sites. Parakeets are found in all natural environments (mondi) of the island. It defends itself by flying away and loud cries. Parakeets eat seeds from the pods of the Kwihi tree, Divi Divi, and columnar cactus. They also consume natural fruits. Its main predators are boa constrictors, humans.

Conew (cottontail rabbit, *Sylvilagus floridanus nigronuchalis*)

The Eastern Cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*) was probably brought over to the island by Indian settlers thousands of years ago as a source of food. This rabbit, locally known as Conew, has spread all over the island and has become part of our ecosystem. The very adaptable Conew can live in

a wide variety of habitats, including Aruba's xeric scrublands, where it typically grazes on weeds and grasses.

The Aruban Conew has a brownish grey color and a distinctive white belly. This white fur extends to the bottom of the tail which becomes visible as the rabbit runs. These rabbits can grow up to approximately 40 centimeters in length over their short lifespan of 3 years. Cottontail rabbits reach reproductive maturity when they are just 2 to 3 months old. A female rabbit, called a doe, finds a suitable nest spot under a shrub or rocks and lines it with fur. She can have an average of 3 to 4 litters per year averaging 5 young each. The doe only visits her young once or twice a day to nurse her babies for a period of 2 to 3 weeks. The young reach independence at 4 to 5 weeks.

The Aruban Conew is an endangered species and protected by Aruban law. The Conew is thought to have drastically declined due to an increase in human activities, habitat fragmentation and predation by the invasive Boa constrictor as well as feral cats and dogs. However, recently there seem to be more rabbit sightings in rural and wilderness areas and also in the National Park. This could be linked to a recent decline of the invasive Boa population after the long period of drought. As the Conew can reproduce very quickly, a short break in predation pressure can lead to a fast increase of rabbits. Sadly, the Boas are back on the rise again with the truly wet rainy seasons we have recently experienced. This could cause a new decline in the Conew population that was just starting to recover.

These are but a few of Aruba's beautiful inhabitant, which we must all contribute to protect. For more information, visit <https://www.arubanationalpark.org/main/flora-fauna/> □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Maui greeting
6 Flower part
11 Trees with needles
12 Once and again
13 Put in office
14 Stylishly quaint
15 Head, to Henri
17 Rooster's mate
18 Honorary monument
22 Poet Khayyám
23 Rough drawing
27 Some skirts
29 Like fish
30 Awful smell
32 Stepped on
33 Get a diploma
35 Soaking spot
38 Smell
39 Even a little
41 Cut into cubes
45 Pesto herb
46 Ageless dwarf

- 47 Storage buildings
48 Incite

DOWN

- 1 Gorilla or chimp
2 Rap's — Nas X
3 Count start
4 Brow-beating
5 Fall flower
6 Runs in the nude
7 Ram's mate
8 Essence
9 Land unit
10 Writer Uris
16 "My country — of thee"
18 May honorees
19 Give off
20 Lion feature
21 Giving a talking-to
24 Scarlett's home
25 Artery problem
26 Jekyll's alter ego
28 Book's precursors
31 Owned
34 Avoid
35 Bar bills
36 Nevada neighbor
37 Diamond corner
40 Pot part
42 Machinery part
43 Punk rock offshoot
44 Bear abode

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Saturday's answer

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45					46				
47					48				

5-27

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

5-27

CRYPTOQUOTE

EV EY XHC QY VGB KESELJ ...
VH AB RBREZPVBR VH VGB
QLXELEYGBR OHCD OGEZG VGBT
OGH XHQJGV GBCB GPSB YH LHA KT

PR SPLZBR. — PACPGPF KELZ HKL
Saturday's Cryptoquote: I DON'T HAVE ANY
BAD HABITS. THEY MIGHT BE BAD HABITS FOR
OTHER PEOPLE, BUT THEY'RE ALL RIGHT FOR ME.
— EUBIE BLAKE

Cruise ship Schedule: August 6 - 27 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
TUE	06	ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS CARNIVAL HORIZON CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	08.00 09.00 13.00	20.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
WED	07	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	13	CELEBRITY BEYOND CARNIVAL CELEBRATION CARNIVAL VISTA	08.00 08.00 13.00	21.00 22.00 23.00	B C I	1 1 1
THU	14	ENCHANTED PRINCESS	08.00	18.00	C	1
WED	20	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1
WED	27	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic but important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

Possible work stoppage at Canada's two largest railroads could disrupt U.S. supply chain next week

By **TOM KRISHER**
AP Business Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Canada's two largest railroads are starting to shut down their shipping networks as a labor dispute with the Teamsters union threatens to cause lockouts or strikes that would disrupt cross-border trade with the U.S. Both the Canadian Pacific Kansas City and Canadian National railroads, which haul millions of tons of freight across the border, have stopped taking certain shipments of hazardous materials and refrigerated products. Both are threatening to lock out Teamsters Canada workers starting Thursday if deals are not reached. On Tuesday, CPKC will stop all shipments that start in Canada and all shipments originating in the U.S. that are headed for Canada, the railroad said Saturday. The Canadian Press reported that on Friday, Canadian National barred container imports from U.S. partner railroads.

Jeff Windau, industrials analyst for Edward Jones & Co., said his firm expects work stoppages to last only a few days, but if they go longer, there could be significant supply chain disruptions. "If something would carry on more of a longer term in nature, then I think there are some significant potential issues just given the amount of goods that are handled each day," Windau said. "By and large the rails touch pretty much all of the economy." The two railroads handle about 40,000 carloads of freight each day, worth about \$1 billion, Windau said. Shipments of fully built automobiles and auto parts, chemicals, forestry products and agricultural goods would be hit hard, he said, especially with harvest season looming. Both railroads have extensive networks in the U.S., and CPKC also serves Mexico. Those operations will keep running even if there is a work stoppage.

CPKC said it remains committed to avoiding a work stoppage that would damage Canada's economy and international reputation. "However we must take responsible and prudent steps to prepare for a potential rail service interruption next week," spokesman Patrick Waldron said in a statement. Shutting down the network will allow the railroad to

get dangerous goods off of its network before any stoppage, CPKC said. □



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Rea leads the way as Brewers win 2-0 to complete sweep of Guardians in matchup of division leaders

By STEVE MEGARGEE

AP Sports Writer

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Colin Rea and two relievers combined on a two-hit shutout as the Milwaukee Brewers defeated the Cleveland Guardians 2-0 on Sunday for their fifth consecutive victory.

The NL Central-leading Brewers (72-52) improved to a season-best 20 games above .500 after going 7-3 on a 10-game homestand that included a four-game split with the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers and a three-game sweep of the AL Central-leading Guardians. Milwaukee's five-game winning streak matches its longest of the season.

Rea (11-4) held the Guardians hitless for the first 5 2/3 innings. The 34-year-old right-hander struck out five and allowed two hits and no walks in his seven-inning stint.

"He's just been an incredible anchor," Brewers manager Pat Murphy said. "He really has. He gives you it every time out. What you see is what you get. It's who he is as a human, every day the same, every day doing everything he can to help out whoever's around him, whatever the mission is. The consummate teammate. I can't say enough about him."

Rea credited the way Eric Haase — starting at catcher for just the 10th time this season — called the game.

"I just think he did a good job of moving the ball around, predominantly with the four- and two-seam (fastball),"



Milwaukee Brewers starting pitcher Colin Rea throws to the Cleveland Guardians during the first inning of a baseball game against the Cleveland Guardians, Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

Rea said. "The slider wasn't quite there today, so we kind of turned to the changeup when we needed to slow them down, so that was good too." Rea departed after hitting Jhonkensy Noel with a pitch for the second time to start the eighth inning. Bryan Hudson came out of the bullpen and retired the next three batters in order.

With usual closer Devin Williams unavailable after pitching three of the last four days, 30-year-old left-hander Jared Koenig retired the side in order in the ninth to earn his

first career save.

"I definitely had it in the back of my mind, but I was just trying to focus on getting the hitters and making my pitches," Koenig said.

Cleveland's Ben Lively (10-8) gave up a run in each of the first two innings, but shut the Brewers down for the rest of his six-inning stint. He struck out five and allowed five hits and two walks to go with the two runs.

In the first inning, Milwaukee's Brice Turang hit a leadoff triple to right and scored on Willy Adames' two-out single to center.

Sal Frelick hit a one-out single in the second, advanced to third on a hit-and-run single from Joey Ortiz and scored when Haase grounded to short.

That was more than enough offense for Rea, who didn't allow a hit until Steven Kwan lined a single to left with two outs in the sixth.

Will Brennan followed Kwan's base hit with a single to center that put the potential tying run on base, but Rea ended the threat by retiring José Ramírez on a pop fly that first baseman Rhys Hoskins caught in foul terri-

tory.

"It's a frustrating series," Guardians manager Stephen Vogt said. "There's no other way to put it. That's a really good team over there, and they showed why. They can pitch."

HONORING YOUNT

Before the game, the Brewers honored Hall of Famer Robin Yount to recognize the 50th anniversary of the two-time MVP's major league debut. Yount spent his entire career with the Brewers and is regarded as the best player in franchise history. Yount received a standing ovation before throwing out the first pitch.

During a pregame media session with former Brewers owner and MLB Commissioner Bud Selig, Yount said that he's "the luckiest guy in the world, to have been drafted by the Milwaukee Brewers."

"I love Milwaukee," Yount said. "I love Wisconsin. It's just worked out great for me."

UP NEXT

Guardians: Off Monday before starting a three-game road series with the New York Yankees on Tuesday. The scheduled starting pitchers Tuesday are LHP Matthew Boyd (0-0, 1.69 ERA) for the Guardians and RHP Luis Gil (12-6, 3.25) for the Yankees. Brewers: Off Monday before starting a three-game series at St. Louis on Tuesday. RHP Frankie Montas (5-8, 4.86) starts for the Brewers on Tuesday, while RHP Erick Fedde (8-6, 3.40) pitches for the Cardinals. □



Dricus du Plessis, right, of South Africa and Israel Adesanya of Nigeria fight during their Middleweight title bout at UFC 305 at RAC Arena in Perth, Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024.

Associated Press

South Africa's du Plessis retains middleweight UFC title

PERTH, Australia (AP) — South African Dricus du Plessis took a flurry of body hits across four rounds before defeating Israel Adesanya by submission to retain his middleweight championship at UFC 305 on Sunday.

After scoring some early takedowns, du Plessis (22-2) had to withstand a flurry of body strikes from Adesanya through the middle rounds which appeared to be taking a toll on the 30-year-old South African as the fight progressed.

But a left hook followed by three rights helped bring Adesanya down which gave du Plessis the opening he wanted as he swiftly got the

choke hold which forced the Nigerian-born New Zealander to tap out at 3:38 into the fourth round.

"This man is the king of getting back up," du Plessis said of Adesanya, who was bidding to become a middleweight champion for the third time. "I'm still alive, that's a bonus."

"I came here to die for this belt and to take a life. I'm still champion, baby."

Tensions ahead of Sunday's fight at the sold out RAC Arena at Perth, Australia had escalated after du Plessis, in response to Adesanya saying he'd take the belt back to Africa if he won, asked whether he would take his servants with him.

Despite the simmering animosity heading into the fight, which saw both fighters refrain from touching each others gloves at the start, the pair appeared to reconcile immediately after the contest.

"I'm really sorry that it came across that I disrespected the fact that he's from Africa," Du Plessis said. "That was never my intention. Africa would have won regardless, but tonight South Africa was the victor."

It was the third time the South African has beat off challengers for the competitive middleweight division and second time this year after he won with a split decision over Sean Strickland in January at UFC 297. □

Jordan Spieth's season is over and he plans surgery on his left wrist

By DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Jordan Spieth ended his season Sunday after one FedEx Cup playoff event and already was planning for surgery on his left wrist that has troubled him the last 16 months.

"I've got to have it operated on ASAP, and then I'll go through the process of what I'm supposed to do from there," Spieth said after finishing with a double bogey — vintage Spieth, he made a 30-foot putt to keep it from being worse — and a 74.

At issue is a torn sheath in his left wrist that holds the tendon in place. It first occurred a week before the 2023 PGA Championship, and Spieth has tried various treatments to avoid surgery. But it never got any better, and he could never predict how badly it was going to affect him.

Spieth said he's talked to several people and the recovery is roughly three months, with physical therapy starting after the sixth week. He did not come close to finishing among the top 50 in the FedEx Cup to advance, so he has time on his side.

"If I don't have a reason to try to rush back — which I don't — I'll probably just take it as slow as I can," he said.

This was the second time Spieth failed to advance out of the first round of the postseason. He was No. 100 in the 2020 season when the top 125 qualified. Now only the top 70 reach the postseason and Spieth was No. 63, in need of a top 10 to advance. He tied for 68th.

Spieth started the 2023 season with five finishes in the top six before he first injured his wrist and had to pull out of the Byron Nelson. He has had only four top-six finishes since then, along with sixth place against a 20-man field at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas. He was No. 10 in the world at the time of the injury. Spieth was at No. 43 going into the St. Jude Championship. He failed to make the cut eight times this year

in 21 tournaments.

"I kept trying not to make excuses for myself because it didn't hurt when I was swinging," Spieth said. "But it doesn't seem coincidental based on the amount of time, and really the results being the exact same every single week. So I'm very hopeful."

"I think there's some clarity in getting it done," he said. "There's also some uncertainty, and so it's a little scary. But also, if I can learn to find some patience — which I'm not very good at doing — then I think I could come back stronger."

Spieth called it the most frustrating year he has ever endured.

"I put a lot on my own plate and then had some unfortunate circumstances, too," he said.

Spieth agreed to join the PGA Tour board when Rory McIlroy abruptly resigned last November, right about the time the tour brought on Strategic Sports Group as an investor in the commercial PGA Tour Enterprises while trying to secure an investment from the Saudi-backers of LIV Golf. At Pebble Beach this year, he played a practice round while using ear buds so he could be part of a conference call.

Even more frustrating was having a good year driving — he was 13th in the key statistical category off the tee. Spieth said that could be explained.

"Anything that impacted the ground was not a good scenario for me this year," he said.

He declined to say when



Jordan Spieth, right, catches a ball tossed to him on the driving range at the St. Jude Championship golf tournament Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024, in Memphis, Tenn.

Associated Press

he would have surgery, and he does have time on his hands. He is not eligible for The Sentry at Kapalua at the start of 2025. Spieth said depending on the recovery, he might ask for an exemption to the Hero World

Challenge in early December in the Bahamas.

Otherwise, he has no set plans.

"Other than two kids under 3, which makes it quite a bit harder with one arm," he said. □



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